BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2004-202-C - ORDER NO. 2004-563

NOVEMBER 12, 2004

IN RE:	Application of AmeriVision Communications,)	ORDER APPROVING
	Inc. for Approval to Increase Local Exchange)	INCREASE IN LOCAL
	Carrier Charge.)	EXCHANGE CARRIER
)	CHARGE

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application for proposed tariff revisions of AmeriVision Communications, Inc. (AmeriVision or the Company). The Company proposes to increase its "LEC Billed Surcharge." This charge is only billed to customers who wish to have the Lifeline Communications services billed through the customer's local exchange carrier. According to the Application, the Company proposes to increase this charge from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per month.

Pursuant to the request of the Commission's Executive Director, AmeriVision published a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the areas in which the Company offered its services. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received.

Accordingly, the Company filed a Motion for Expedited Review and verified testimony in this matter.

We grant the Motion for Expedited Review. The verified testimony of Kathleen Foster, Regulatory Director of the Company, provided information on the Application. Foster stated that AmeriVision offers customers direct billing for their long distance

services through Lifeline free of additional charges. The LEC billed surcharge is only charged to customers wishing to be billed by their local exchange carrier as a convenience of receiving only one bill. Foster noted that in order to keep pace with the Company's billing costs, the Company has found it necessary to increase its LEC billed surcharge from \$1.50 to \$2.00. BellSouth currently charges AmeriVision 58 cents minimum to bill the customer on BellSouth's bill. This is in addition to various other charges. Based on all the charges, for a bill with 20 calls, the average charge to AmeriVision for the service is \$1.98, plus 2.85% of the total billing.

Foster stated that the increase proposed to the customers is necessary in order to recoup the costs that are associated with offering the convenience to the customers. She noted that the customers do have a choice to get billed for free or to be billed on the local exchange carrier bill as a convenience.

We have examined this matter, and we approve the Application as filed. We agree that the Company has demonstrated the need for a higher Local Exchange Carrier Charge, through its explanation furnished by Ms. Foster. The Company shall file ten (10) copies of its revised tariff within ten (10) days of its receipt of this Order.

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	This Order	shall remain	in full	force an	d effect	until furthe	er Order o	f the
Comm	nission.							

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/	3
Randy Mitchell, Chairman	

ATTEST:

/s/
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)